

10/031209

PATENT

-1-

531 Rec'd PCT/PTC

11 JAN 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Neil A. Boucher et al.

Application No.: NEW

Filed: HEREWITH

For: INDUCED ABSORPTION FILTER
(IAF)

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

121 Spear Street, Suite 290
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 512-1312

~~3/19~~
~~#3/19~~
5-23-03

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to Examining the above-identified application, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 to 8, 10 to 14, 17 and 18 as shown below. Please cancel claims 9, 15, 16, and 19 to 24.

1. (Amended) An optical filter comprising;

a dielectric stack of alternating relatively high and low refractive index layers;

an opaque, reflective metallic layer; and

a dielectric spacer layer located between the dielectric stack and the metallic layer, the filter having a resonant wavelength, at which wavelength incident radiation is channelled into, and absorbed by, the metallic layer.

2. (amended) An optical filter, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dielectric spacer layer has the same composition and thickness as one of the constituent layers in the dielectric stack.